

Docket No. 18733/00040



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AF/B726
Chad B. H.
H. 08/1/03

In re:

U.S. Application of:

Akira TSUBOUCHI, Kiyoshi OKUBO and Yasushi
WATANABE

For:

METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING HOLLOW
RACK SHAFT

Confirmation No.:

7306

U.S. Serial No.:

09/803,560

Filed:

March 9, 2001

Group Art Unit:

3726

Examiner:

Percy W. Echols

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JUL 31 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

MAIL STOP AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited
with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in
an envelope addressed to: **MAIL STOP AF**, Commissioner
for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

July 22, 2003

Date of Deposit

Brian E. Harris

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered
Representative

B E Harris

Signature

July 22, 2003

Date of Signature

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated April 22, 2003, which provides for a
response period ending July 22, 2003.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows: